

# DLA/DDOO WELCOMES NEW COMMANDER

*By Sherry West*

Colonel George R. Raney assumed command of the Distribution Depot Oklahoma City, Oklahoma (DDOO) during a change of command ceremony on October 13.

Colonel Neal Miller, former commander, had successfully headed DDOO since July of 1996. He and his family will remain in the Edmond area after his retirement from the United States Air Force on January 1, 2001.

BG James Pillsbury, Defense Distribution Center Commander, presided over the ceremony, passing the leadership of DDOO from Miller to Raney.

As a 28-year Air Force veteran, Raney is the fourth commander of DDOO. "It's great to be here at Tinker AFB, and to be back on an Air Force Base," said Raney. Raney, an Idaho native, served the last three years as Commander, of the Air Force ROTC Detachment 640 at Miami University in Oxford, Ohio.

Raney was commissioned through Officer Training School in 1972 after earning his Bachelor of Science degree in business management from Louisiana Tech University. He completed Undergraduate Navigator Training in 1973, KC-135 Combat Crew Training, Squadron Officer School in 1977; Air Command and Staff College in 1980; and Air War College in 1987. In 1992 he earned his second bachelors degree in accounting.

Raney has served as combat ready and standardization/evaluation crewmember, Barksdale AFB, Louisiana, and was selected for duty in the 55th Strategic Reconnaissance Wing at Offutt AFB, Nebraska. He maintained qualification in four RC-135 models, flew 120 JCS directed world wide operational reconnaissance missions. He was then reassigned to Headquarters, Strategic Air Command where he served as a Plans Officer and Chief, Reconnaissance Plans and Exercise Branch.

He moved to Norfolk, Virginia he assumed duties as Joint Operations and Crisis Action Officer, and served as SAC Liaison Officer at Langley AFB, Virginia, in 1989. In 1990 he became Assistant Deputy Commander, Resources, at Ellsworth AFB, South Dakota. Relinquishing command, he moved to Wright Patterson AFB and assumed command of the 645th Transportation Squadron in 1992, and served as Chief of Transportation, Air Force Materiel Command.

Raney is a Master Navigator with 3,900 hours in KC-135 and RC-135 aircraft and several awards and decorations during his career thus far. They include the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Meritorious Service Medal with five oak leaf cluster, Air Force Commendation Medal, Air Medal with three oak leaf cluster, the Humanitarian Service Medal, and the Combat Readiness Medal with one oak leaf cluster.



*Miller Family – from left to right, Son – Andrew; Son – Capt Mark Miller, USAF; Wife – Claudia; Col Neal Miller, USAF; Son – LT Luke Miller, USA; and Son – Griffin.*



*BG Pillsbury accepting the command flag from Col Miller with Col Raney looking on.*

*Col George R. Raney, USAF.*

